

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE AT GENESEEO

### HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2021*

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State University of New York College at Geneseo on its 150th anniversary.

Founded in 1871, SUNY Geneseo is a liberal arts college located in the historic Village of Geneseo, New York. SUNY Geneseo has a rich history, and I am honored to represent it in Congress.

On September 13, 1871, the Geneseo Normal and Training School opened its doors with 71 certificate-seeking students. The following year, the first commencement was held with a graduating class of ten students. Later renamed SUNY Geneseo, today the school has more than 4,000 students, fifty undergraduate degree programs, and twenty-six interdisciplinary minors. SUNY Geneseo has grown exponentially over its 150-year history, while maintaining its strong commitment to quality education.

Despite the challenges of the past year, SUNY Geneseo has continued to deliver a high-quality education. This success is demonstrated by SUNY Geneseo's designation as a "Top Producer of U.S. Student Fulbright Awards," as well as the university's U.S. News and World Report ranking of third for "Top Public Regional Universities" in the Northern United States. Each of these designations reflect the hard work of the students and faculty at SUNY Geneseo, who have grown the school into an outstanding institution over the past 150 years.

SUNY Geneseo is known not only for its academics, but also for its history and traditions. An iconic feature of Geneseo is the Seuss Spruce found in the Sturges Quad. The tree's shape resembles a Dr. Seuss illustration, likely developing its shape from an ice storm. The Sturges Quad also holds the "Greek tree," a tree painted by students from different Greek organizations during the night. This tradition began in the 1960s, yet thousands of layers of paint later, the tree grows taller each year. Geneseo is also known for its remarkable sunsets, especially those that can be seen from the campus Gazebo overlooking the Genesee Valley.

I thank SUNY Geneseo for its commitment to preserving and promoting 150 years of education, and I again congratulate Geneseo on its 150th anniversary.

TRINIDAD "TRINI" GARZA EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2021*

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Trini Garza Early College High School for becoming a 2021 National Blue Ribbon Awardee.

Trini Garza Early College High School is a public school located in the southwest quad-

rant of the Dallas Independent School District, the second largest urban school district in Texas. The school opened in 2006 and works in collaboration with Mountain View College to provide a partnership that ensures the goal of college success is attained. Garza ECHS students attend both high school and on-site college classes in order to graduate with their high school diploma and associate degree. Most of the students are the first in their family to attend college in an area where about only 10 percent of the population has a college degree.

The high school's namesake is well-known Dallas civic leader and businessman, Trinidad "Trini" Garza. Mr. Garza is known as an advocate for progress for the Hispanic community as early as 1969 when he helped organize the city's first Mexican American Leadership Conference. Mr. Garza has also been a strong advocate and supporter of education. Elected as the first Hispanic member of the board of trustees in 1969, Mr. Garza was then appointed Deputy Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Education in President Clinton's Administration. Throughout his life, Mr. Garza has served his community through involvement in numerous civic organizations. In 2010, the Early College High School at Mountain View College was named after Mr. Garza.

Every year, the U.S. Department of Education recognizes hundreds of public and private schools across the country for their commitment to educational excellence and their ability to overcome outstanding odds to properly educate their students. These schools receive the National Blue Ribbon of Distinction, an award reserved for schools that boast students who meet and maintain high educational goals. The Blue Ribbon Award celebrates the idea that all students, regardless of background, ability or location, deserve an excellent education.

The culture of Trini Garza Early College High School provides a place where students, parents, and faculty become life-long learners. There is no punishment for taking risks, no systemic anxiety about failure. Students are encouraged to advocate for their own learning, and teachers tailor student experiences based on individualized needs so that all are successful in whatever endeavor they choose.

Trini Garza Early College High School's commitment to excellence has exceeded expectations on the state accountability systems attaining ALL seven distinctions listed in Academic Achievement: Reading/Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; Social Studies; Top 25 percent Student Progress; Top 25 percent Closing Performance Gaps; and Post-secondary Readiness. The philosophy "All Children Can Learn" is ingrained in every aspect of this school. It is an honor to celebrate them for this historic achievement and their lifelong impact on the Dallas community.

PASTOR TOMMY SMITH

### HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2021*

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Tommy Smith, the Pastor of the First Church of God in Christ in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Pastor Smith has been in ministry at

the same location for over fifty years. He began his ministry as a musician for the church before progressing to a Sunday school teacher and assistant pastor. Pastor Smith is now the District Superintendent of Congregation in Sulphur Springs, Bonham, Commerce, Talco, and Mt. Pleasant areas. He is also the Chief Financial Officer of the Texas Northeast 3rd Jurisdiction of Churches of God in Christ.

In 2020, Dr. Smith received his Doctor of Theology from Newburgh Theological Institute after battling with cancer. He also attended advanced courses from the Dallas Theological Seminary. In addition, Pastor Smith worked for the Marketplace Ministries in Mt. Pleasant as a chaplain, Titus Regional Medical Center as chaplain, and Mt. Pleasant Police Department as a ride along chaplain. He continues to set excellent examples to others in ministry as a Dean of Ordination for newly licensed ministers in the Great State of Texas. Pastor Smith loves the Lord and will continue this ministry until the Lord calls; "Well done thy good and faithful servant."

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Pastor Smith's devotion to God, Country, and his congregation. Furthermore, Madam Speaker, I extend my personal commendations to Pastor Smith for all he has done in service of the 4th Congressional District of Texas.

HONORING MRS. SALLY TANNER

### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2021*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to honor Mrs. Sally Tanner in celebration of her extraordinary life and commitment to serving her community.

Marcella "Sally" Tanner was born in East Chicago, Indiana, the youngest of eight children born to Anton and Mary Zinski. She spent her childhood in Indiana, where she became politically engaged and active in her community. It was during this time that she planned her first political demonstration. After Sally graduated high school, she moved with her parents to Southern California, where she attended Pasadena Community College and the Art Center School of Design in Los Angeles. Shortly after finishing school, World War II began, and Sally decided to become a riveter to serve her country. After the war, Sally had her two sons, Christopher and Timothy, and began working as an administrative assistant for Assemblyman Harvey Johnson. Upon Assemblyman Johnson's retirement in 1979, she decided to run for his seat in the California State Assembly. She won the race and served as the Assemblywoman of CA-60 for 14 years.

It is evident through Sally's impactful career that she truly touched the lives of all those who knew her. Some of her many achievements in the California Assembly include becoming the first Chair for the Clean Air Clean Water committee, the Toxic Waste committee, and establishing the California Consumers Board. She wrote many influential bills, including the Lemon Law, which has helped thousands of California consumers of failing vehicles seek retribution. Sally was a fierce advocate for women and marginalized communities